

RESIDENTIAL ISSUES COMMITTEE

May 14, 2012
1:00 to 3:00 PM

At

DDS Office, 104 South Turnpike Road, Wallingford, CT. 06492

Attendance: Carin Mancini, Laurie Herring, , Peter Mason, Katie Banzhaf, Pauline Boufford, Jennifer Schoolnick, Arlene Steinfeld, Pat Tyler, Nicole Cadovius

Minutes of 4/14/2012-Approved with the notation that the committee would offer recommendations around the life enhancing benefit of various technologies and the ethical uses of same.

Review of Work Committee

Steering Group meets once a month discussing the CLA Rates, attempting to determine the hours for an "average "home. The committee acknowledges the struggle of the transition to rates and notes it could be a seven year process.

Community Companion Home:

Looking to determine how to expand the program

Individualized Home Supports:

Looking to rate setting

Data Management:

Looking at method to obtain documents in the most efficient manner.

An overall look at developing a sustainable system.

Technology:

The Residential Issue Committee agreed that it would be great to begin a electronic file around technology resources Carin Mancini agreed to begin this file with information brought forward at the meeting.

Discussion:

A discussion was held regarding technology as it serves to enhance safety, provide adaptive services, and increase communication techniques.

Viewed the Smart House DVD-Discussion around how technology can serve people with various degrees of ability. Most specifically communication technology and its benefit to high need individuals. We discussed the funding barrier as well as staff training and support.

Nicole Cadovius noted that her agency has been actively implementing various technology supports in their programs. (Ability Beyond Disability)

Peter asked how the committee wants to proceed-acknowledging the following:

- People need to be informed on what is out there, what are the option and what is available
- Caution will need to exercised that technology does not replace services that are beneficial to people. (This includes staff supports)
- The value must be weighed with the ethical approach to technology, civil rights, and personal supports.

A discussion occurred noting that studies currently in existence might inform this discussion. Noted is that while there is a tremendous amount of studies available for augmentattive communication devices, many of the other technologies are new and more recently implemented.

Nicole has invited the committee to Abilities Beyond Disabilities to witness technology supports that are currently being used in the agency. 4 Berkshire Blvd, Bethel, CT. Carin to work out dates with Nicole for later in June.

Dates of July and August meetings – Monday, July 16th and Monday, August 13th 2012. Meetings to be held at DDS South Region Wallingford office

All committee members are encouraged to bring an article or information on technology to the next meeting.

Submitted by

Laurie Herring